

12-18-1884

Typed letter from James H. Rion to Thomas G. Clemson, 1884 December 18

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Winnsboro', S. C., 18th. Decr. 1884.

Hon. Thos. G. Clemson:

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of the 30th ulto., postmarked "1st" inst., on my return from the Courts at Columbia. Thank Heaven! I do not have to return to Columbia until the 12th. prox. I am glad to hear that you have at last found the Smith note.

Mr. Starke was to come here on the 15th. and he has not yet arrived, I suppose your invitation to him to come to Fort Hill, first was the cause of his not coming.

I am gratified to learn that you are to be your own successor with an Interregnum of 25 years. It however surprises me, as I have been informed that it was to be Mr. Cleveland's policy, as advised by Southern statesmen, to appoint no Southern man to a National Office at least during the first year of his administration. I think too, viewing the matter as a party policy, it would not be wise in Mr. Cleveland, to appoint a son-in-law of John C. Calhoun; and especially one who left his Office at Washington (even though at the point of the bayonet, and with a halter in view) and joined the Rebellion, and kept the Trans-Mississippi Department a-going until the close of the war. But if Cleveland will have the independence to make the appointment, so much the more to his credit.

Mr. Hunter is not dead; that is to say not in the condition in which they bury or cremate people.

My wife says she has never heard of the plant Taragon; but will endeavor to get it by next spring.

In haste, and with the compliments of the approaching Holidays, I must close.

Very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant,

Jas. H. Rion, Attorney and Solicitor
in the State Courts of So. Ca.
and U.S. Courts of S.C. and N.C.